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Soda Ban Statement Given to CNN Latino

1 message

Colin Crews < colin.crews@lacity.org>

Thu, Mar 28, 2013 at 2:42 PM
To: Alexis Marin <alexis.marin@lacity.org>, Doug Tripp <doug.tripp@lacity.org>, myriam lopez <myriam.lopez@lacity.org>

From Councilmember Mitchell Englander:

In November 2011, I proposed a Motion to simply remove sweetened sodas from the City of Los Angeles vending machines in recreation facilities. These machines are mostly accessed by unsupervised children. I put the Motion forward because these sodas provide absolutely no or little nutritional value and contain damaging ingredients, like sugar and caffeine which affect young people both mentally and physically. Childhood obesity is a nationwide epidemic and as a City we need to lead by example by making healthy choices for children in our recreation facilities. Children cannot be blamed for poor nutritional choices, but as a City we should set examples. The elimination of sodas from vending machines in our City controlled public recreation facilities will not put an end to childhood obesity, but it is a small step in educating our citizens about healthier food choices.

This is not a government over-reach. In fact, the motion does not direct private restaurants, stores, or retailers from what size they can sell or what choices they can offer to the public. This is a statement by the City to simply lead by example in offering only healthy choices from our own venues that are frequented mostly by children.

Sincerely,

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